Amendment to the Claims

Claims 1-5 (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) A transgenic mouse whose genome comprises a null endogenous Kir5.1 allele~~; said allele comprising exogenous DNA~~.

Claim 7 (Canceled)

8. (Currently amended) A cell or tissue isolated~~derived~~ from the transgenic mouse of claim 6.

Claims 9-15 (Canceled)

16. (Previously presented) The transgenic mouse of claim 30, wherein the transgenic mouse exhibits increased startle response, relative to a wild-type control mouse.

17. (Previously presented) The transgenic mouse of claim 16, wherein the increased startle response is an indication of increased level of anxiety.

18. (Previously presented) The transgenic mouse of claim 16, wherein the increased startle response is an indication of a stimulus processing disorder.

19. (Previously presented) The transgenic mouse of claim 30, wherein the transgenic mouse exhibits, relative to a wild-type control mouse, a growth disorder comprising at least one of the following phenotypes: dwarfism, decreased body weight, decreased spleen weight and decreased spleen weight: body weight ratio.

20. (Previously presented) The transgenic mouse of claim 19, wherein the phenotype is dwarfism.

21. (Previously presented) The transgenic mouse of claim 19, wherein the phenotype is decreased body weight.

Claim 22 (Canceled)

23. (Previously presented) The transgenic mouse of claim 19, wherein the phenotype is decreased spleen weight.

24. (Previously presented) The transgenic mouse of claim 19, wherein the phenotype is decreased spleen weight: body weight ratio.

Claims 25-28 (Canceled)

29. (Currently amended) The transgenic mouse of claim ~~1~~ 6 wherein the mouse is heterozygous for said null allele.

30. (Currently amended) The transgenic mouse of claim ~~1~~ 6 wherein the mouse is homozygous for said null allele.

31. (Currently amended) The transgenic mouse of claim 1 wherein said null allele ~~exogenous DNA~~ comprises a gene encoding a ~~selection~~ selectable marker.

32. (Previously presented) The transgenic mouse of claim 31 wherein said gene is a neomycin resistant gene.

33. (Currently amended) The transgenic mouse of claim ~~1~~ 32 wherein said null allele further comprises ~~exogenous DNA comprises~~ a lacZ gene ~~encoding a visible marker, where said gene is capable of expression in the brain~~.

34. (Currently amended) The transgenic mouse of claim 33 wherein said lacZ gene is expressed in the brain and kidney~~encoding for a visible marker is the lacZ gene~~.

35. (Currently amended) A method of identifying an agent capable of modulating activity of a KIR5.1 gene or KIR5.1 gene expression product, the method comprising:

a. administering a putative agent to the transgenic mouse of claim ~~1~~6;

b. administering the agent to a wild-type control mouse; and

c. comparing a physiological response of the transgenic mouse with that of the control mouse;

wherein a difference in the physiological response between the transgenic mouse and the control mouse is an indication that the agent is capable of modulating activity of the gene or gene expression product.